

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2254

UNCLAS LONDON 09647

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAIR, BEXP, ETRD- UK

SUBJ: ROLLS-ROYCE ENGINES FOR BOEING 747S

REF: LONDON A-892 (11/13/74)

1. IN STATEMENT IN REPLY TO QUESTION IN PARLIAMENT JUNE 21, SECRETARY OF STATE FOR INDUSTRY VARLEY SAID UK GOV'T WILL SUPPORT FURTHER DEVELOPMENT OF RB-211-524 ENGINE FOR USE IN BOEING 747 AIRCRAFT. THIS ACTION TAKEN, REPORT NOTES, EVEN THOUGH CONDITION FOR GOVERNMENT SUPPORT SET BY PREVIOUS INDUSTRY SECRETARY THAT AIRLINE ORDER FOR ROLLS POWERED 747S IN ADDITION TO THAT ALREADY MADE BY BRITISH AIRWAYS WOULD BE REQUIRED, HAS NOT BEEN MET (REPAIR).

2. VARLEY SAID GOVERNMENT CONTRIBUTION TOWARD COST WILL BEGIN AS SOON AS CONTRACTUAL DETAILS ARRANGED AND BA PLACES ITS PROPOSED ORDER. UK GOVERNMENT WILL CONTRIBUTE AS LAUNCHING AID ABOUT HALF COSTS OF PROGRAM TO USE THE ENGINE AT 50,000 POUNDS THRUST IN B-747. GOVERNMENT CONTRIBUTION IS TO BE RECOVERABLE BY LEVY ON ENGINE SALES. VARLEY ALSO SAID HE HAD AGREED IN PRINCIPLE TO FURTHER GOVERNMENT SUPPORT TO DEVELOP ENGINE TO 53,000 POUNDS THRUST.

3. PRESENT MODEL OF RB-211 REPORTED TO HAVE EARNED UK 300 MILLION POUNDS IN FOREIGN EXCHANGE AND UPRATED VERSION TO BE USED IN 747 EXPECTED TO PRODUCE 400 MILLION POUNDS

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MORE OVER NEXT TWENTY YEARS. ROLLS AND BOEING, ACCORDING

TO REPORTS, ESTIMATE OF 700 B-747 AIRCRAFT EXPECTED TO BE  
BUILT IN FUTURE SOME 150 WILL HAVE ROLLS ENGINES.

4. PRESS REPORTS NOTE PRODUCTION STANDARD ENGINES FOR  
747 SCHEDULED FOR DELIVERY EARLY 1976 TO PERMIT CERTIFI-  
CATION WORK TO BEGIN. ENTRY INTO SERVICE EXPECTED EARLY  
1977.

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## Message Attributes

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**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
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**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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